



*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

DATE: November 07, 2005

The USS KIDD Veterans Memorial and Louisiana's Old State Capitol will join forces this Friday (Nov. 11) to host Veterans Day ceremonies in downtown Baton Rouge. Ceremonies are open to the public at no charge and all interested parties are invited to attend.

Location: Louisiana's Old State Capitol—the 1882 House Chambers

Date: Friday, November 11, 2005

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Sponsored by: USS KIDD Veterans Memorial & Louisiana's Old State Capitol

Ceremonies Coordinated by: Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 371

Color Guard Provided by: Tara High School Army JROTC Program

Guest Speaker: Mayor President Melvin "Kip" Holden

Activities: Ceremonies will include the induction of two new members to our Louisiana Veterans Hall of Honor: Mr. Tommy McCoin and Major Jason E. Smith. Mr. McCoin was a paratrooper with the U.S. Army during World War II, participating in campaigns throughout Italy. He fought at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. He is a retired school teacher and coached for many years in East Baton Rouge Parish. Major Smith is currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, has seen combat in Iraq, and has received the Silver Star and the Bronze Star. His father, Walter Smith, who served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam, is also a member of the Veterans Hall of Honor.

The Baton Rouge Music Club Chorus will perform immediately following the ceremonies. The USS KIDD Living History reenactors will be on hand at the ceremonies and at the KIDD afterward. The USS KIDD Amateur Radio Club (W5KID) will be on the air all day.

The Old State Capitol Connection: The Old State Capitol was dedicated to Louisiana veterans in 1926. Also, the boxcar presented to Louisiana from the Merci Train is on display there. The Merci Train was a 49-car train filled with gifts from the citizens of France to the citizens of the U.S. following World War II.



USS KIDD, A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK
PROUD MEMBER OF

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